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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Koethen Airfield

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 21 November 1950

REFERENCES [REDACTED] 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 15 October 1950, local residents said that about 40 single-engine aircraft returned to the Koethen (M 52/D 95) airfield on 12 October. The planes were parked in the hangars. A jet fighter allegedly took off and landed at the field repeatedly. \*
2. Twelve single-engine aircraft were identified in an open hangar. The other hangars were closed. There was no flying between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. although the weather was good. No motor vehicles were seen.
3. A radio station, consisting of a radio truck and a mast which was braced and about 30 meters high, was east of the completed runway. Grading was still being done on the new landing field north and south of the runway.

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\* [REDACTED] Comment. The unit observed is certainly a ground attack regiment. All fighter regiments in the Soviet Zone of Germany are partially re-equipped with jet- aircraft and no fighter regiment is equipped with so many conventional fighters. The jet fighter probably belongs to one of the fighter units stationed at the nearby airfield of Dossau or Zerbst. There were no air units at the Koethen airfield while construction was in progress. A ground attack regiment and elements of an air reconnaissance regiment were stationed there before the construction work started.

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The ground attack regiment was transferred to Stendal. See [REDACTED] This regiment is believed to have been re-transferred to Koethen. The reasons for this assumption are that two ground attack regiments, which were stationed at the Jueterbog-Altes Lager airfield before improvement work started there, were transferred to Reinsdorf and Staaken. See [REDACTED] When the work was completed at the Jueterbog-Altes Lager airfield, the regiment in Reinsdorf was transferred back. See [REDACTED]

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The regiment from Staaken was presumably also transferred back to Jueterbog on 20 October 1950. See [REDACTED] The bomber regiments which were transferred from the airfields of Cottbus and Finsterwalde because of improvement work were also retransferred after the work was

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completed. It is therefore believed that the air units evacuated their airfields during construction work and returned to their former fields in October 1950.

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